

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-166. (Canceled).

167. (Currently Amended) A ~~method of therapeutic or prophylactic treatment comprising the steps of:~~

(a) ~~implanting a silicon implant into a human or animal, the implant comprising a drug and hydrophobic resorbable mesoporous silicon having a pore size between 20 Å and 500 Å, the drug being at least partly located in the pores of the porous silicon; and~~

(b) ~~allowing the porous silicon to erode.~~

168. (Currently Amended) A ~~method~~silicon implant according to claim 167 wherein the porous silicon comprises macroporous silicon.

169. (Canceled).

170. (Currently Amended) A ~~method~~silicon implant according to claim 167 wherein the resorbable mesoporous silicon has a porosity between 2% and 80%.

171. (Currently Amended) A ~~method~~silicon implant according to claim 170 wherein the resorbable mesoporous silicon has a porosity between 4% and 55%.

172. (Currently Amended) A ~~method~~silicon implant according to claim 167 wherein the resorbable mesoporous silicon has a structure such that it is tissue compatible.

173. (Currently Amended) A ~~method~~silicon implant according to claim 167 wherein in step (b) the resorbable mesoporous silicon erodes over an interval of between one month and two years.

174. (Currently Amended) A ~~method~~silicon implant according to claim 167 wherein the implant has a largest dimension x, wherein $0 < x \leq 2$ mm.

175. (Currently Amended) A ~~method~~silicon implant according to claim 167 wherein the drug is distributed through substantially the whole volume of the material of said implant.

176. (Currently Amended) A ~~method~~silicon implant according to claim 167 wherein the implant comprises substantially entirely resorbable mesoporous silicon.